

283045

Nihal Rajapakse

Feb 20, 2019

Subject: Petition Against the Duke Energy Rate Increase

Dear Commissioners:

As a Duke Energy electric customer, I encourage you to closely examine the Duke Energy electric rate proposal (2018-319-e) when it comes before you, Specifically, I am concerned that:

Duke Energy's proposal to increase the basic facilities charge, a fixed cost from \$8.29 to over \$28. This would make this mandatory fee one of the highest in the country and much higher than the other investor-owned utility in South Carolina which recently lowered its fixed cost.

The increase in this mandatory fee takes away customer control over my energy bill robs me of the full benefit of energy conservation efforts. It is important that you protect older consumers who may live on a fixed income.

This appears to be a greed driven rate increase to bottom lines for the investors. Nearly tripling the basic facility charge is not warranted and abuse of the system to rip off customers. This will badly affect low income families as they have to pay this outrageous fee regardless of the usage.

Sincerely hope that the SCPSC would not allow this greed driven request to go through.

Thanks.

Sincerely,
Nihal Rajapakse

RECEIVED
MAR 11 2019
PSC SC
MAIL / DMS